CLAIMS

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:

checking means for checking predetermined time information of content data recorded in a first format;

setting means for setting, on the basis of said content data time information checked by said checking means, bits rates with which said content data is recorded from said information processing device to a predetermined removable recording medium; and

recording control means for converting the format of said content data from said first format to a second format and recording the converted content data to said recording medium with said bit rates set by said setting means.

2. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said checking means checks a recording time of said content data recorded in said first format as said time information.

3. The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said content data is constituted by a moving image data and audio data corresponding thereto;

said setting means sets, as said bit rates, a first bit rate corresponding to said moving image data

and a second bit rate corresponding to said audio data; and

said recording control means executes control so as to record said moving image data of said content data in said first bit rate set by said setting means and record said audio data in said second bit rate set by said setting means.

4. The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a first fixed value is predetermined as a maximum value among settable values of said first bit rate;

a second fixed value is predetermined as a maximum value among settable values of said second bit rate; and

said setting means, if a first inequality expressed in

$$(B1 + B2) \times Tx < Cmax$$

where Tx denotes a recording time of said content data checked by said checking means, B1 denotes said first fixed value, B2 denotes said second fixed value, and Cmax denotes a recordable maximum capacity of said recording medium of which recording is controlled by said recording control means, is found established, then sets said first fixed value as a value of said first bit rate and said

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second fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

5. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a third fixed value lower than said second fixed value is predetermined as a settable value of said second bit rate; and

said setting means, if said first inequality is found not established and a second inequality expressed in

$$(B1 + B3) \times Tx < Cmax$$

where B3 denotes said third fixed value is found established, then sets said first fixed value as a value of said first bit rate and said third fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

6. The information processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said setting means, if said first inequality is found not established and said second inequality is found not established, then computes a fourth value denoted by B4 in a third inequality for establishing said third inequality

$$(B4 + B3) \times Tx < Cmax,$$

sets the computed fourth value as a value of said first bit rate and said third fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

7. The information processing apparatus according

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to claim 6, wherein said setting means computes said fourth value on the basis of the establishment of said third inequality and a predetermined characteristic that, as a recording time of said content data checked by said checking means increases, the value of said first bit rate linearly decreases.

8. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first format is a format of a digital video tape recorder and

said second format is a format specified by the DVD standard.

9. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storage means for storing said content data,

said recording control means including:

computation means for computing a free capacity of said storage means;

acquisition means for dividing said content data into a plurality of data sections on the basis of said free capacity of said storage means computed by said computation means, acquiring a predetermined first data section among said plurality of data sections, and storing said acquired predetermined first data section into said storage means;

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conversion means for converting said format of said first data section acquired by said acquisition means from said first format to a second format, generating a second data section smaller in data amount than said first data section, and storing the generated second data section into said storage means;

deletion means for deleting, when said generated second data section obtained by converting said format of said first data section by said conversion means has been stored in said storage means, said first data section from said storage means before a third data section different from said first data section is acquired by said acquisition means from among said plurality of data sections forming said content data; and

recording medium recording control means for, if said content data has all been acquired in said acquisition means, converted into said second format in said conversion means, and stored in said storage device, recording the content data of said second format to said recording medium at said bit rate set by said setting means.

10. The information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said computation means computes a first data amount of said content data in said

first format and a second data amount of said content

data in said second format and adds the computed first

data amount and the computed second data amount together

to compute a first threshold value; and

said acquisition means, if said free capacity of

said storage means computed by said computation means is

smaller than said first threshold value computed by said

computation means, sets, as a second threshold value, an

amount obtained by subtracting said second data amount

computed by said computation means from said free

capacity of said storage means, divides said content data

into said plurality of data sections having a data amount

smaller than said second threshold value, and acquires

said first data section among said plurality of data

sections, and stores the acquired first data section into

said storage means.

11. The information processing apparatus

according to claim 10, wherein said first format is a

format of a digital video tape recorder;

said acquisition means acquires said content data

by making said digital video tape recorder reproduce a

digital video tape on which said content data is

recorded; and

said second format is a format specified by the

DVD standard.

12. The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said recording control means further has section checking means makes said digital video tape recorder reproduce said digital video tape recorded with said content data to check a recording section that appears after said recording start point and before said recording end point; and

said acquisition means divides said content data by use of data corresponding to each of said plurality of recording sections checked by said section checking means, as one of said section data, and acquires said first section data of the plurality of divided section data, thereby storing the acquired first section data into said storage means.

13. The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said acquisition means, if there is any data among data corresponding to said plurality of recording sections checked by said section checking means that exceeds said second threshold value in data amount, does not handle said data corresponding to said recording section exceeding said second threshold value in data amount as one of said section data, but further divides said data into a plurality of data lower

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in data amount than said second threshold value, divides

said content data with each of said plurality of data

lower in data amount than said second threshold value

used as one section data, acquires said first section

data among said plurality of section data, and stores

said first section data into said storage means.

14. The information processing apparatus

according to claim 12, wherein said section checking

means makes said digital video tape recorder reproduce

said digital video tape recorded with said content data

at a speed higher than normal to check an interim

recording section corresponding to said recording

section; and

said acquisition means divides said content data

with data corresponding to said plurality of interim

recording sections checked by said section checking means

used as one interim section data, detects a recording

start point of said recording section corresponding to a

predetermined first section data among said plurality of

interim section data, controls said digital video tape

recorder to reproduce data corresponding to said

recording section from the detected recording start point

up to said recording end point that appears next to said

recording start point, acquires, as said first section

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data, said data corresponding to said recording section

of which reproduction by said digital video tape recorder

is controlled, and stores said data thus acquired into

said storage means.

15. A program for making a computer execute the

steps of:

checking for checking predetermined time

information of content data recorded in a first format;

setting for setting, on the basis of said content

data time information checked by said checking step, bits

rates with which said content data is recorded from said

information processing device to a predetermined

removable recording medium; and

recording control for converting the format of

said content data from said first format to a second

format and recording the converted content data to said

recording medium with said bit rates set by said setting

step.

16. The program according to claim 15, wherein

said recording control step comprising:

computation step for computing a free capacity of

a predetermined storage device;

acquisition step for dividing said content data

into a plurality of data sections on the basis of said

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free capacity of said storage device computed by said

computation step, acquiring a predetermined first data

section among said plurality of data sections, and

storing said acquired predetermined first data section

into said storage device;

conversion step for converting said format of

said first data section acquired by said acquisition step

from said first format to a second format, generating a

second data section smaller in data amount than said

first data section, and storing the generated second data

section into said storage device;

deletion step for deleting, when said generated

second data section obtained by converting said format of

said first data section by said conversion step has been

stored in said storage device, said first data section

from said storage device before a third data section

different from said first data section is acquired by

said acquisition step from among said plurality of data

sections forming said content data; and

recording medium recording control step for, if

said content data has all been acquired in said

acquisition step, converted into said second format in

said conversion step, and stored in said storage device,

recording the content data of said second format to said

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recording medium at said bit rate set by said setting

step.